

**TANF – Senate Bill 24 Annual Report
December 19, 2017**

Senate Bill 24 was passed and implemented by the 98th Missouri General Assembly on 08/28/2015 to be known as the "Strengthening Missouri Families Act", and modified provisions of law relating to the TANF program. The following list details of the changes:

- 1) Standardized orientation for TANF applicants that informs them of program rules, requirements, work activities and consequences if program requirements are not satisfied prior to application approval.
- 2) TANF applicants shall sign a participation agreement known as a "Personal Responsibility Plan" prior to application approval unless the individual is exempt from work activities.
- 3) TANF applications must login to or create an account at jobs.mo.gov prior to application approval unless the individual is exempt from work activities.
- 4) Cash Diversion Program that grants eligible TANF applicants otherwise eligible for the TANF program a lump-sum cash grant for short-term needs in lieu of ongoing monthly TANF payments.
- 5) Sanction policies for non-cooperation with work requirements:
 - Division will schedule a face-to-face meeting with the recipient to explain participation requirements and the sanction policy.
 - The recipient has six (6) weeks from the date of the face to face meeting to comply with work requirements for one week, regardless of whether they attend the meeting.
 - If the participant does not comply during this six (6) week period, the Division shall reduce the amount of assistance otherwise payable to the household by fifty percent (50%) of the full grant amount.
 - The household will receive the reduced grant for up to ten (10) weeks if they remain eligible for Temporary Assistance on all other factors during that time. When the Temporary Assistance benefit has been reduced by 50%, the participant is required to complete four (4) consecutive weeks of participation in work activities for a minimum average of thirty (30) hours per week or the required hours allowable under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) before the sanction can be ended.
 - The ten week period provides the individual additional time to comply with work requirements. When the participant has completed four consecutive weeks of the required hours per week, the sanction will end.

- Failure to complete four consecutive weeks of participation for the minimum average required hours per week by the end of the ten (10) week period will result in a full-family sanction and the Temporary Assistance case closing.
- 6) New Spouse Disregard - A temporary disregard of all income and resources of a new spouse when they marry an active Temporary Assistance recipient. This disregard is available for six (6) consecutive months the Temporary Assistance participant receives a cash benefit. It is allowed once-in-a-lifetime for the Temporary Assistance recipient that marries, and applied to both parents in a two parent household that marry, if both are active cash recipients on the marriage date.
 - 7) Reduced life time limit to receive TANF benefits from 60 months to 45 (forty-five) months unless approved for a hardship extension.
 - 8) Create a database in conjunction with the Department of Economic Development for tracking and recording TANF recipient's work activities.

The following data was collected:

Federal Fiscal Year 2016

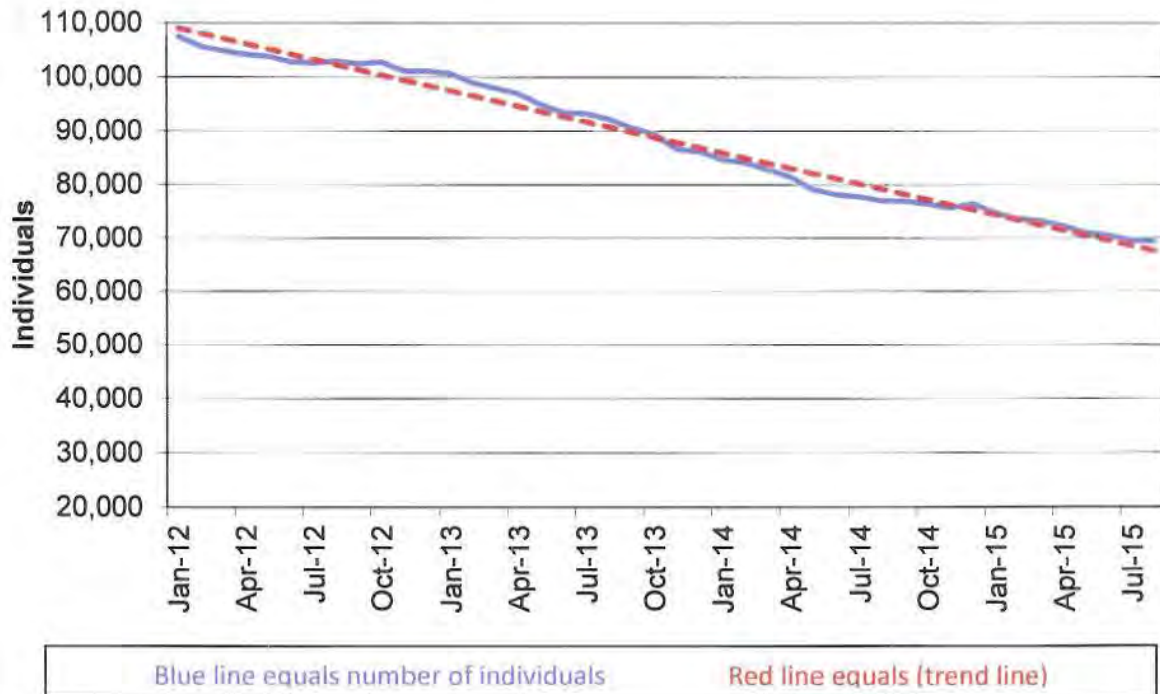
- Number of TA applications rejected prior to approval for non-compliance with new requirements – 534
- Number of Cash Diversion Cases – 36 totaling \$30,476 in payments
- Number of 50% Sanctions:
 - ❖ 9,238 households consisting of
 - 15,562 children;
 - 7,535 of those under age five
 - ❖ 779 resolved 50% sanctions
- Number of Full Family Sanctions:
 - ❖ 5,535 households consisting of
 - 9,170 children;
 - 4,427 of those under age five
 - ❖ 649 resolved Full Family Sanctions
- Number of New Spouse Disregard TANF cases – 15
- Number of TANF cases closed for 45 month life time limit:
 - ❖ 3,228 households consisting of
 - 6,662 children;
 - 2,822 of those under age five

- TANF participant logon hours with jobs.mo.gov
 - Total Participants: 3,993 Hours logged: 8,679

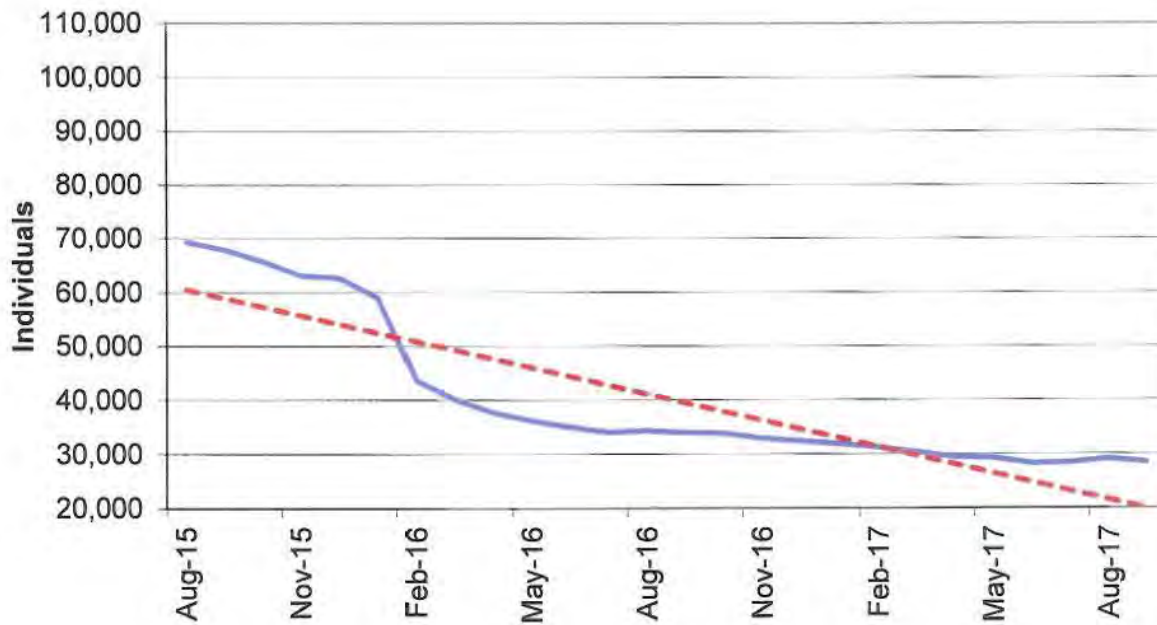
Senate Bill 24 Implementation Costs

- State Fiscal Year 2016 \$30,676
 - o Orientation Video and Scripts created in English and Spanish
 - o Personal Responsibility Plan in English and Spanish
 - o Three special mailings to participants notifying them of the changes
 - o Robocalls
 - o Diversion Program system costs

Temporary Assistance Individuals January 2012 - August 2015



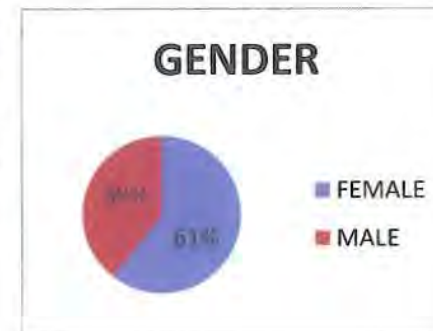
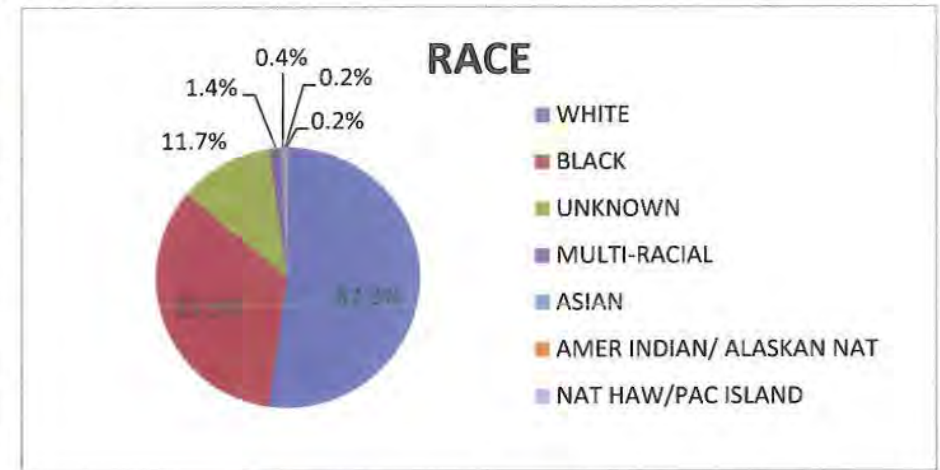
Temporary Assistance Individuals August 2015 - September 2017



MISOURI DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
UNDULICATED COUNT OF ACTIVE TA INDIVIDUALS IN FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2016

RACE	NUMBER	PERCENT
WHITE	46,678	52.3%
BLACK	30,304	33.9%
UNKNOWN	10,428	11.7%
MULTI-RACIAL	1,215	1.4%
ASIAN	371	0.4%
AMER INDIAN/ ALASKAN NAT	164	0.2%
NAT HAW/PAC ISLAND	154	0.2%
Total	89,314	100%

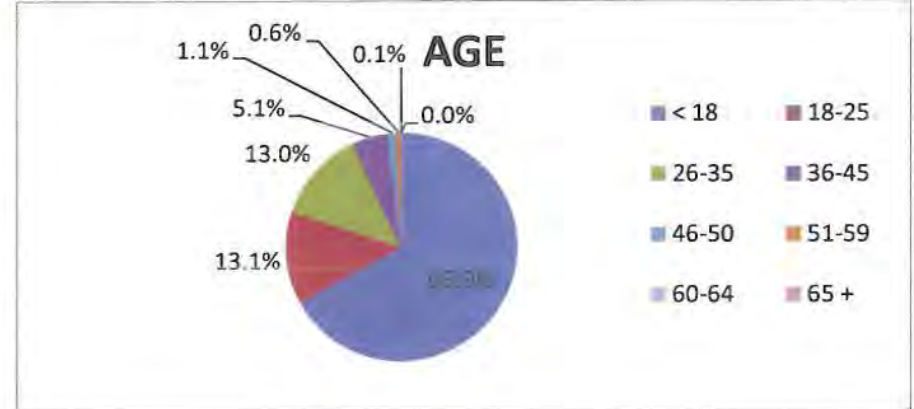
GENDER	NUMBER	PERCENT
FEMALE	54,164	61%
MALE	35,150	39%
Total	89,314	100%



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

UNDUPLICATED COUNT OF ACTIVE TA INDIVIDUALS IN FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2016

AGE	NUMBER	PERCENT
< 18	59,785	66.9%
18-25	11,712	13.1%
26-35	11,633	13.0%
36-45	4,579	5.1%
46-50	984	1.1%
51-59	568	0.6%
60-64	45	0.1%
65 +	8	0.0%
Total	89,314	100%



EDUCATION LEVEL (AGE 18-64 ONLY)	NUMBER	PERCENT
HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE	13,966	47.3%
SOME HIGH SCHOOL	8,522	28.9%
SOME COLLEGE	4,269	14.5%
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	891	3.0%
OTHER	815	2.8%
COLLEGE GRADUATE	647	2.2%
AGE 5 OR LESS	411	1.4%
Total	29,521	100%

